

California Weather-Hydro Conditions during August 2011

As of September 1, 2011, statewide hydrologic conditions were as follows: precipitation, 140 percent of average to date; runoff, 145 percent of average to date; and reservoir storage, 130 percent of average for the date. Sacramento River Region unimpaired runoff observed through August 31, 2011 was about 24.8 million acre-feet (MAF), which is about 139 percent of average. For comparison, on August 31, 2010, the observed Sacramento River Region unimpaired runoff through that date was about 15.6 MAF, or about 86 percent of average.

August was generally dry and cool. On September 1, the Northern Sierra 8-Station Precipitation Index Water Year total was 72.2 inches, which is about 147 percent of the seasonal average to date and 144 percent of an average water year (50.0 inches). During August, the total precipitation for the 8-Stations was 0.0 inches, compared to 0.3 of an inch for the monthly average. Last year on September 1, the seasonal total for the 8-Stations was 53.3 inches, or about 109 percent of average for the date.

On September 1, the San Joaquin 5-Station Precipitation Index Water Year total was 64.1 inches, which is about 160 percent of the seasonal average to date and 157 percent of an average water year (40.8 inches). During August, the total precipitation for the 5-Stations was 0.0 inches, compared to 0.2 of an inch for the monthly average. Last year on September 1, the seasonal total for the 5-Stations to date was 44.7 inches, or about 112 percent of average for the date.

Selected Cities Precipitation Accumulation as of 08/31/2011 (National Weather Service Water Year: July through June)					
City	Jul 1 to Date 2011 - 2011 (in inches)	% Avg	Jul 1 to Date 2010 - 2010 (in inches)	% Avg	% Avg "Water Year" Jul 1 to Jun 30 2011- 2012
Eureka	0.21	43	0.19	39	1
Redding	0.15	56	0.13	48	0
Sacramento	0.00	0	0.00	0	0
San Francisco	0.11	85	0.01	8	0
Fresno	0.00	0	0.00	0	0
Bakersfield	0.00	0	0.00	0	0
Los Angeles	0.00	0	0.00	0	0
San Diego	0.00	0	0.02	40	0

Key Reservoir Storage (1,000 AF) as of 08/31/2011								
Reservoir	River	Storage	Avg Storage	% Average	Capacity	% Capacity	Flood Control Encroachment	Total Space Available
Trinity Lake	Trinity	2,280	1,839	124	2,448	93	---	168
Shasta Lake	Sacramento	3,619	2,966	122	4,552	80	-933	933
Lake Oroville	Feather	3,309	2,377	139	3,538	94	-229	229
New Bullards Bar Res	Yuba	731	653	112	966	76	-235	235
Folsom Lake	American	839	621	135	977	86	-138	138
New Melones Res	Stanislaus	2,142	1,374	156	2,420	89	-278	278
Don Pedro Res	Tuolumne	1,781	1,427	125	2,030	88	-249	249
Lake McClure	Merced	854	584	146	1,025	83	-170	171
Millerton Lake	San Joaquin	423	230	184	520	81	-97	97
Pine Flat Res	Kings	714	387	184	1,000	71	-286	286
Isabella	Kern	282	212	133	568	50	-80	286
San Luis Res	(Offstream)	1,493	890	168	2,039	73	---	546

The latest National Weather Service Climate Prediction Center (CPC) long-range, 1-month precipitation outlook for September 2011, issued August 31, 2011, suggests below average rainfall for the eastern half of California. The outlook suggests no tendency for above or below average rainfall for the western half of the State.